

21 FEB

Mr. Henry L. Roberts
Director, The Russian Institute
Columbia University
431 West 117th Street
New York 27, New York

Dear Mr. Roberts:

I wish to thank you for your letter of 9 February inviting me to address the Student Group of the Russian Institute this spring.

It is sincerely regretted that I will be unable to accept your very kind invitation. In view of my duties, it is necessary for me to restrict my speaking engagements to the various Service Schools with an infrequent outside address. Unfortunately, I cannot make an additional commitment at this time.

I will be most pleased, however, to designate a qualified officer from the Agency to speak to your group on this particular occasion if you so desire.

Once again, many thanks and kindest regards.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

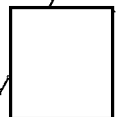
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Columbia University
in the City of New York
NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

THE RUSSIAN INSTITUTE
431 WEST 117TH STREET

February 9, 1959

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.

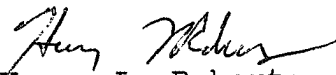
Dear Mr. Dulles:

I am writing you on behalf of the Student Group of the Russian Institute. Each year at the end of the spring semester the students have a banquet, and they should be delighted if you would consent to address them on that occasion this spring. The banquet has come to be a quite important feature of the year; I believe in the course of the last several years all of our wartime and post-war ambassadors to the Soviet Union have been speakers.

I know that you would find this group to be an unusually appreciative and informed audience. As you know the entire group is planning to devote themselves to careers in the Russian and Soviet field, and about half of our graduates have taken employment in one or another branch of the government. I can only add that it would give the greatest pleasure to my colleagues on the Institute staff and myself if you were able to attend.

The best dates would probably be Friday or Saturday evening, May 8 or 9, but the preceding or following Friday or Saturday would also be perfectly satisfactory. If you feel that you can attend I shall inform the President of our Student Group who will extend a formal invitation from the Group and make further arrangements with respect to dates.

Very sincerely yours,


Henry L. Roberts
Director

HLR:hg